

# INDEXA

INFORMATION  
SESSION FREQUENCY  
14.236 2330Z



# INDEXA

ISSUE 27  
FALL 1993

A non-profit organization for the enhancement of amateur radio, worldwide peace and friendship

## ERITREA ON THE AIR



Photo #1 by LA1EE: Mosley TA-33M raised at the Asmara Technical School 8 June 1993. Yes it is on top of a truck from WW2. LA7XK (front right), LA6VM (back left) and LA9DL (bottom right)

The plans for a combined expedition evolved in the fall of 1992, when Halvard LA7XK, Just LA9DL, Erling LA6VM and Jin JF1IST were invited to Einar's (LA1EE) QTH to celebrate his 50th birthday. With the Peter I Oy and Bouvet expeditions in the past, we had developed a taste for travel. With the prospects of reappearance on the DXCC list and easy travel, Eritrea looked good.

Erling had a few Eritrean colleagues who hopefully could solve the practical matters and the plan was presented to Mr. Amanuel Negassi with the Eritrean government office in Oslo. With his help contact was established with the Telecommunication Authority of Eritrea. At the same time our seminar plans were further developed with the help of Arnfinn, LA8CJ of INDEXA. He made contact stateside to get things moving in the right direction to obtain the training material. The seminar effort was given a high priority and generous donations came in from the ARRL, Oklahoma Comm Center and INDEXA.

The equipment wasn't a big problem since much was on hand from the Peter I and Bouvet expeditions. Two ICOM 751A with amps, one TS460 with an amp, a TA33 tribander with an array of other antennas. Logs were kept on two laptops with the LA9UX program.

The excitement of a new country on the air was evident by the pile-up. The operation used two station most of the time and three when we could. The pile-up caused the QSO rate to drop to less than 60 per hour. In order to reduce the pile-up and to give the weaker stations a chance, we started working by the numbers. This immediately increased the QSO rate. To provide the highest contact count we could, we used 10, 15 and 20 m SSB/CW and no WARC.

cont. page 2

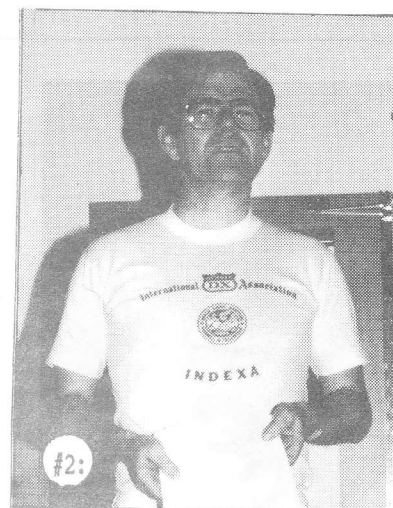


Photo #2: Erling J Wiig  
LA6VM E35X Team Leader

The seminars and meetings were a very important part of this expedition. Demonstrations focused on antennas, radio equipment, as well as various operation modes; phone, CW, and RTTY were presented. The quick demonstration of RTTY created a loud demand for more.

A schedule was arranged one evening with Bjarne LA4HF, who had invited the Eritrean government representative in Norway, Mr. Negassi to his home for this special event. Messages of congratulations were exchanged in tigrinja, the main language of Eritrea.

At the end of our stay, we moved a full station and training material to the Asmara Technical School. The erection of the club station was a spectacular event. Over 100 people were present, including the local press, radio and TV, about half of them took part in erecting the TA33M once again. Yes, it is mounted on top of an old truck, but it has anchor points and the truck is solid QRT now.

During the ceremony after the antenna erection, Mr. Mussie from the Telecom Authority said this event would go on record as the first amateur radio operation from free Eritrea.

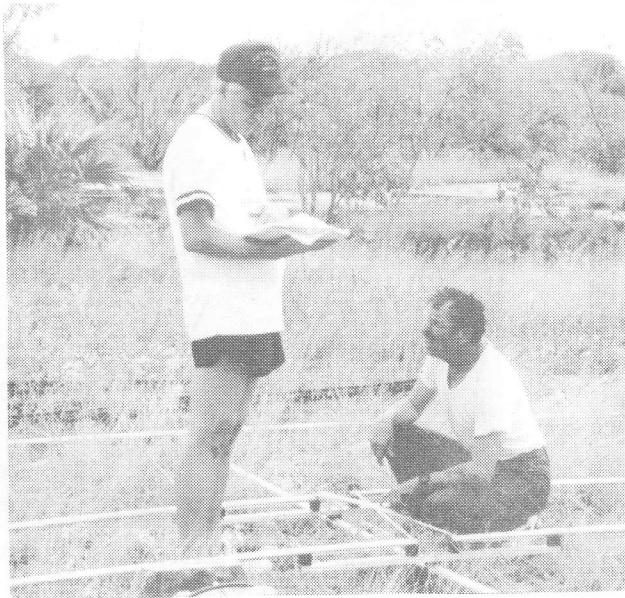
Thanks to NCDXF, ARRL, IARU, JA DXers, Mosley Electronics, Okla Comm Center, INDEXA, the great people of Eritrea and so many more who made this event possible.

Erling J.Wiig LA6VM

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## NAVASSA ISLAND DX-PEDITION 1993

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L-Dave, KB4VLO      R-Vance, W5IJU  
Putting one of the two TA33M beams together

Vance, W5IJU had planned to go in 1991 but all required arrangements didn't fall into place. The plans for 1993 looked much better once he started putting it together. Little problem with finding the operators and even less trying to collect enough equipment. It wasn't easy in either case but he managed to pull it together. Travel and shipping arrangements were made. It appeared all was going well. He had shipped 25 boxes ahead to Jamaica with all they needed for the operation.

However, when the crew themselves arrived in Jamaica, they found only 10 of the 25 boxes. A search for the gear took up another day, so they decided to go even without all the equipment. Would you expect the ship to have problems? How about a broken fuel line 5 hours out of Kingston!

Arriving at the island late, they found missing steps in the wire ladder. Five of the first seven were not there. A landing was made after more lost time. Once they had set up, operation started at 1800Z on March 27th. They had purchased tents in case of rain but the 10 boxes they had contained no tents, just a few tarps. These were put to use that same day to cover the rigs when it started to rain at 2200Z. Thanks to a few plastic trash bags, the generator and food could be covered.

One operator went for a walk one evening, became stranded on a ledge some distance from the site and was found the next morning. Ask Vance about this one. Operations stopped Friday April 2nd. Any estimated 25,000 contacts were made. Operators were W5IJU, JH4RHF, JR4DUW, KB4VLO, KO1YF, WJ20 VE1AOE and NF6S. Calls used were all KP1/ W5IJU, NF6S, KH2S and KH2W.



SK W4FPS      Rev. JAMES LEONARD

Before Jim became a staff member on the INDEXA information sessions, he had retired from two jobs. At the age of about 50 or so, he retired from his business of electrical engineering. Not being satisfied with retirement, he returned to college to become an ordained minister. He served many years in this field with much joy until it was time to retire again.

Jim was first licensed in 1928 as W2BTP and later as W4FPS in 1937. He enjoyed working with people and had a soft spot for those in need. We truly miss him and we will use the words written by his XYL because she said it best.

"Please convey my gratitude to the folks at INDEXA, it was a comfort to me knowing that they were thinking of him. He was a great guy and a great husband. My love to the INDEXA gang." Estelle Leonard

**Officer Profile:**

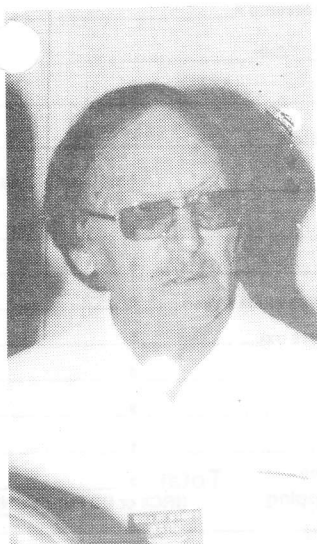
Director, Wayne "Wimpy" Carroll, W4MPY

Wayne was first licensed as W5QDF in Texas about the time he graduated from high school. The first rig was an old ARC-5 and BC-455 receiver. This was all very good except the farm still used oil lamps for light, no power! They finally arranged for REA to set a pole in the yard but Wayne was the one who had to wire the house.

A tour of duty with the Air Force including running traffic stateside from Guam (KG6FAA) for the troops at MARS. He returned home and married his high school sweetheart Lola. (Lola says that was the best thing that ever happen to him) He entered college and later was offered a management position he couldn't refuse. Radio took a back seat for a few years.

Along came the 70's and the DX bug bit. (the real bad kind) After fighting mainly CW, he is looking for the last 3 cards to be approved for #1 Honor Roll.

He managed to start a part time QSL printing business in the basement in 1980. This part time job grew until he was able to kiss the corporate rat race goodbye. He found 63 acres of pine trees for a new home and a separate print shop building. He planted 3 towers that has grown to 70', 110' and 170'. All sorts of monoband beams and wire everywhere. He plays SYSOP for the local packet Cluster. NO TIME FOR BOREDOM IN MONETTA, S.C. HI !



W4MPY

**EXTRA HELP PROVIDED BY:**

W5VCS N8FME OX3KM WB1GWB K7DZ PT2FR KE5PO AA7WP WA4WTN KA2PHQ KB4CTX W3DR KM6ON  
3AL WB9WHQ AD4HC VU2DIG WD0FQA JF1AGB JM3DDG KA5RIP KD5ZR KB2QDD KO4OG KE3AY  
KJ1HN WA1LNP VE7IX WA5WEX KH6DFW ZL1AYZ KC1SQ JI8ETY KC1MI ON6CW WD8DVP JA8IYI  
DJ9ZB WD9EYD W6PBI WS7W and W4MPY...

**SPONSORED MEMBERSHIP:**

VU2DIG by N6ZPX.

**NEW LIFE MEMBERS:**

HB9CVO AD4HC AB6PB N6JKQ K7MOA K4MGP W8CXO

**BULLETIN BOARD**

Many thanks for the cards and calls I received during and after my operation during July and August. After the surgeon let me come home, I had a few problems. The type of operation delayed me from even working on the INDEXA data base for about four weeks. When I did start to catch up, I found the hard drive had crashed!!! Yep, we do have backup disk. The PC was repaired, failed some more and finally was replaced. I then found the original setup had went south as well. After about five weeks, the bad or crashed info was located and corrected. I now backup the backup and hope this larger PC will serve INDEXA long into the future.

This issue is late due to the above events. Hopefully we can keep the PC and our health in good shape in the future to be on time. I wish to thank the XYL Sue, for putting up with the bad health and INDEXA problems during the same time period.

We welcome two new "staff members" to our group. They have been learning the "pes" this summer and now are in the group. Don KB6KTV in Daly City, CA. and Ron AA4KT in Kingsport, TN. More on these fellows later.

The Staff Members are purchasing PCs of their own in an effort to be of greater service to amateurs. This also includes loading a data base to work from and having to keep it updated forever. INDEXA thanks them for going the extra mile to provide good service to all. It would be nice if those listening would pass a "thanks" to them also.

73/88s, Murph



# INDEXA BALLOT 1993-94

Please vote for the nominees as approved by the Directors or use the write in space if desired.

| OFFICE    | Nominee | Yes | No | Write in |
|-----------|---------|-----|----|----------|
| President | W4WMQ   |     |    |          |
| V-Pres    | K4MQG   |     |    |          |
| Sec/Trea  | W4UNP   |     |    |          |
| Directors | 1 Year  |     |    |          |
|           | ZLIAMO  |     |    |          |
|           | VK6RU   |     |    |          |
|           | DJ9ZB   |     |    |          |

All terms of office are either 1, 2 or 3 years. The 2 & 3 year terms are not elected this year.

Please mail ballot to the Election Officer:

Bill Jennings W4UNP  
630 Whitepine Drive  
Catawba, SC 29704

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Life Membership in payments of (4x\$37.50 within 1 Year)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
"T" Shirt with Logo, S-M-L-XL (\$12 US, \$18 DX)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Lapel Pin with Logo (\$5)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Rubber Stamp with Logo (\$5)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
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